Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*— When the non-officials require a particular piece of information at the easy disposal of the Government is it fair on their part to rule that the supply of that information will serve no useful purpose ?

Mr. President.——You have anticipated the answer.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*— Can one copy each of the two Bills be kindly given to the present questioner?

Mr. President.—I shall certainly go into the question and see whether the curiosity of the Hon'ble Member can be satisfied.

Cut motion—Unemployment Problem—Action taken on.

95. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*—Will the Government be pleased to state the response they have made to cut motion No. 5, passed by the House on 15th Karkadagam 1111?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government).*— All that is possible to tackle the problem of unemployment is being done by Government. No specific action was therefore taken on the cut motion.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—May I know whether the Government is aware of the extent of unemployment in the State?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government).*— The Government is aware that here is unemployment.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—My question is whether the Government is aware of the extent of unemployment in the State?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government).*— It is not confined to this State alone. No statistics have been so far prepared.

Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen *(Kattur).*— Were there not pressing demands that statistics should be collected?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government).*— It was I think with regard to a particular portion of the town.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*— Is not the position that 'all that is possible to tackle all problems is done by Government" a usual one with all Governments?

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Mr. President.—As a matter of fact one of the reasons why we are engaged in capital works of fairly large magnitude is to solve the question of unemployment.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—This refers to unemployment in rural areas.

Mr. President.—The opening of a canal at Irinjalakuda will engage some 2 or 3 thousand labourers for a period of nearly three years. The fore-shore road works at Ernakulam also has given employment for nearly 1000 people. The Railway diversion scheme costing about 12¼ lakhs will also give employment for a few thousands of people.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—Are these the only items of work that the Government have undertaken to solve the unemployment problem?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government).*—They are some.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*— May I know a few others?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government).*—There are so many others started and supported by the Government. For example there is the Textiles at Trichur where a large number of persons are employed. In addition to this Government are aiding industrial societies. Then there is the electricity industry.

Mr. A. Sivarama Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu).*— Is it the view of the Government that no statistics will be collected regarding the unemployed?

Mr. President.—The difficulty of collecting statistics of unemployment in India is a problem that has been felt by all the Provincial Governments including the Central Government. The problem of unemployment in India is very different from the problem in the advanced western countries. In England and other industrial countries unemployment really refers to the people particularly trained in that industry and not being in a position to get an employment in that industry. In England the figure maintained by the Tariff Board with regard to unemployment say 1½ millions on the 1st of April 1937 relates to definite persons trained in particular industries. In India the word 'unemployment' has got a grammatical meaning. In India if anybody wants just to find out who is unemployed, then it is

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very difficult. Fifty persons may be unemployed today but they may get employed tomorrow. What will be the value of such statistics?

Mr. A. Sivarama Menon (*Mulakunnathukavu*).—While I appreciate the statement made by the President, I must point out that attempts are being made in British India to collect statistics with regard to particular classes of unemployment, i. e., educated unemployment. Is it too much to expect of this Government to make a beginning in this direction? I am only illustrating my point. With regard to unemployment the collection of statistics in British India may be difficult. But I beg to bring to the notice of the Government that with regard to Cochin State a fair trial may be made by delegating the work to our Panchayats. I am only throwing out a suggestion.

Mr. President.—As a matter of fact, the collection of statistics must lead to something. Now in England the Board of Trade has got registers. It will show, textile industry, A, B, C, D &c—1000 are unemployed. Those statistics will be useful to do something for the textile industry. Suppose we go to a village and find that there are 500 men unemployed. Assuming that we have collected that, what does that lead to?

Mr. A. Sivarama Menon (*Mulakunnathukavu*).—When we know the extent of unemployment, Government can introduce proper relief measures. I strongly suggest that a beginning ought to be made by Government. The method is entirely left to them.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Wadakkancheri*).—Now that the name of the Textiles has been mentioned here, as an item of work giving relief to unemployed people, may I know, Sir, whether the Government has got any control over the labour that is employed in that firm?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*).—Is that a supplementary question?

Mr. President.—About 750 people are there.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Wadakkancheri*).—We hear complaints that most of the workers employed are persons not belonging to Cochin.

Mr. V. K. Achyuta Menon (*Director of Industries and Commerce*).—That is baseless.

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Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*—In view of the sympathetic assurance of the statement of the Diwan President in this matter, and of the repeated demands which the Government have already consented to consider sympathetically about the starting of some Government industries especially in commodities connected with cocoanuts, copra, coir and all that in the coastal regions of Pallippuram, Cranganur, etc., whether they will relieve unemployment by Government starting their small scale industries?

Mr. President.—The advisory committee has given us some suggestions. They will be considered.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*—That is a specific committee which is formed for a specific purpose.

Mr. V. K. Achyuta Menon *(Director of Industries and Commerce).*—Government can organise things. I do not think it is possible to undertake any factory or things like that. They can try to organise and that is what is being done with many cottage industries.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*—What is the total amount for which the applications have come now?

Mr. V. K. Achyuta Menon *(Director of Industries and Commerce).*—It may come to nearly Rs. 2000 or 2500.

Hands promoted to the Huzur Seretariat from the Huzur Records, Central Records and Press.

96. **Mr. T. C. Iyyukutty** *(Pazhanji).*—Will the Government be pleased to state the hands promoted to the Secretariat directly from the Huzur Records and Central Records and the Press (with their names, qualifications and duration of such arrangements) in the time of the present Secretary to Government ?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government).*—K. Abdul Majid, B. A. was promoted from the Central Records to officiate as clerk in the Secretariat from 5th Karkadagam 1112 to 2nd Chingam 1113 and from 10th Chingam 1113 to 10th Dhanu 1113.

None from the Huzur Records and the Press.

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